

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT

Please replace the original abstract with the following replacement abstract. Applicant notes that the amendments are made solely to remove spacing errors appearing in the original printing of the abstract. No new matter has been added by way of these amendments. No actual amendments were made to the abstract and, thus, no mark-up are shown in the replacement abstract.

-- A timing generator includes a reference signal generating unit for generating a reference signal of a predetermined frequency, a variable delay circuit unit for outputting the timing signal which results from delaying the reference signal by a predetermined time, and a delay amount measuring unit for measuring a delay amount of the variable delay circuit unit, whereby the timing generator controls the delay amount of the variable delay circuit unit based on the delay amount measured by the delay amount measuring unit. Since the frequency of the reference signal is continuously modulated within a very small frequency range, the delay amount measuring unit can measure the delay amount of the variable delay circuit unit highly accurately. In addition, since the delay amount of the variable delay circuit unit can be controlled on the basis of the measured delay amount, it is possible to generate the accurately delayed timing signal.--